

REMARKS

The Examiner has suggested the addition of headings to specification. Headings have been added and the specification has been amended to more closely conform to U.S. practice.

Two typographical errors in the specification were noticed and corrected; "air" was amended to "aid" on page 1, line 8 of the specification and "analogous" was amended to "analog" on page 1, line 19 of the specification.

Claims 1 to 32 have been cancelled and new claims 33 through 66 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that the new claims make the Examiner's rejections under 35 USC § 112, as well as the Examiners objections to the claims, moot.

The Examiner has rejected the cancelled claims 1, 2, 18 and 19 as being anticipated by Platt.

Platt shows a device for programming a hearing aid. It includes a controller 42, a hearing aid interface 48 and a hearing aid presence sensor 50. Referring to FIG. 4, the controller 42 communicates with the presence sensor 50 via a signal line D. The controller 42 communicates with the hearing aid interface 48 via the controller input line H and the controller output line G. Col 12, line 44 through col. 13, line 7.

With respect to the controller 42, the interface 48 has separate input and output lines H, G, and the sensor 50 has only an output line D. The interface 48 and the sensor 50 do not share communication lines, rather, each has dedicated connections to the controller 42.

The present claims include, *inter alia*, having the serial data outputs of the second units commonly connected to the serial data input of the first unit. No such structure is found in Platt.

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 33 through 66 are not anticipated by Platt.

Appl. No. 09/903,453
Amdt. dated Jan. 12, 2005
Reply to Office action of Aug. 12, 2004

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and notification of same is requested.

If any additional fees are required by this communication which have not already been paid, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 33731.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/12/05